

Department of Natural Resources, Al—Jefferson County Department of Health, Al). These audits were conducted to assess the agencies' performance under the grants made to them by EPA pursuant to Section 105 of the Clean Air Act. EPA Region 4, has prepared reports for the twenty-four agencies identified above and these 105 reports are now available for public inspection.

ADDRESSES: The reports may be examined at the EPA's Region 4 office, 345 Courtland Street, NE., Atlanta, Georgia 30365, in the Air, Pesticides, and Toxics Management Division.
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Linda Thomas, (404) 347-3555 vmx4180, at the above Region 4 address, for information concerning States of Alabama, Florida, Mississippi, Georgia, and local agencies. Vera Bowers, (404) 347-3555 vmx4178, at the above Region 4 address, for information concerning the States of Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and local agencies.

Dated: April 18, 1995.

Patrick M. Tobin,

Acting Regional Administrator.

[FR Doc. 95-10878 Filed 5-2-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

[FRL-5202-3]

Fiscal Year 1995 Environment Technology Initiative Solicitation for Socioeconomic Projects Related to Pollution Prevention

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION: Notice of availability, request for proposals; extension of deadline for receipt of applications.

SUMMARY: The deadline for receipt of proposals for this solicitation has been extended from May 1, 1995 to Tuesday, May 16, 1995. The solicitation is included in this notice. This solicitation was previously announced in the **Federal Register** on February 24, 1995.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: General information about the grant solicitation process and application kits may be obtained by calling (202) 260-7474. For inquiries pertaining to technical questions only call Kenneth Jewett, Office of Policy, Planning and Evaluation, (202) 260-4211 or fax your request to (202) 260-2685.

Introduction

This Announcement describes a grant solicitation of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to support projects directed toward furthering the objectives of the President's

Environmental Technology Initiative (ETI). The ETI is an integral part of the Clinton Administration's broad new technology policy, enunciated on February 22, 1993 in "Technology for America's Economic Growth: A New Direction to Build Economic Strength". This government-wide policy recognizes that industry is the primary creator of new technology and the main engine of sustained economic growth. The policy assigns the federal government a catalytic role in promoting the development of new pollution prevention technologies for use across a range of economic sectors including: Auto manufacturing, computers and electronics, iron and steel, metal finishing and plating, petroleum refining, and printing—as well as converting defense technologies to civilian applications. The ETI addresses all of the above sectors that are concerned with environmental protection.

EPA seeks proposals to conduct "socioeconomic projects" related to pollution prevention technology development and use. Projects may be focused on technology policy regulatory reforms, opportunities for building organizational capacity to be innovative, and diffusion of innovative prevention technologies. EPA's interests in this instance are clearly distinct from conventional socioeconomic research and development. That is, they go beyond study and analysis of issues to apply existing knowledge in pioneering attempts to effect social or institutional change with respect to promoting development and use of innovative pollution prevention technology.

Unlike other civilian technologies, the demand for environmental technologies is primarily driven by federal and state pollution prevention and control policies, regulation and enforcement. Over the past 25 years, with the passage of the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, Superfund and other environmental statutes, EPA has invested hundreds of millions of dollars in researching and developing new technologies to monitor and control pollution. With the passage of the Pollution Prevention Act of 1990 and the Agency's adoption of "pollution prevention" as a first-choice environmental protection policy, the demand for pollution prevention technologies and concomitant research and development in pollution prevention has also influenced the demand for "better, cheaper, more reliable" environmental technologies—especially technologies that can reduce the costs of compliance, recycle or re-

use wastes, foster cleaner, safer manufacturing processes or prevent pollution from being created at all. Indeed, the domestic market for environmental technologies in the U.S. today is nearly \$134 billion annually. It employs more than 1,000,000 Americans in some 40,000 to 60,000 businesses nationwide.

Inadvertently however, the "policy framework" that has driven the demand for these technologies also poses barriers to the adoption and use of technologies that offer substantial environmental and economic benefits. According to Dag Syrrist, President of Technology Funding in California, the environmental technology industry today, "fears innovation and repels capital." Technologies that can prevent pollution, reduce health risks and dramatically cut costs of managing environmental quality are NOT getting to market because of these barriers. EPA's ETI is uniquely positioned to address these barriers—as a technology policy reform initiative.

EPA is directing approximately \$3.5 million this fiscal year (FY) in awards under this initiative to not-for-profit organizations, colleges and universities. Proposals averaging \$150,000 per year with a maximum duration of 2 years are being sought.

Not-for-profit organizations are generally defined as those organizations that qualify for such status under section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Service tax code. Examples of not-for-profit organizations include public and private colleges and universities, as well as trade associations, professional societies, research consortia, and community development corporations.

Electronic Availability

This Announcement can be accessed on the Internet at the following Gopher and World Wide Web (WWW) addresses:

Gopher: GOPHER.EPA.GOV
WWW: HTTP://WWW.EPA.GOV

Rationale

EPA has structured its ETI project-selection process for FY95 to conform to the strategic ETI objectives contained in the Agency's Draft Technology Innovation Strategy (EPA 543-K-93-002), January 1994. This strategy has the following objectives (please refer to the draft Strategy document for more detail on these objectives):

- (1) Policy Framework: Adapt EPA's policy, regulatory, and compliance framework to promote innovation;
- (2) Innovation Capacity: Strengthen the capacity of technology developers

and users to succeed in environmental innovation;

(3) Diffusion: Accelerate the diffusion of innovative technologies at home and abroad; and

(4) Environmental and Pollution Prevention Technologies: Strategically invest funds in the development and commercialization of promising new technologies.

This solicitation is focused on pollution prevention-related proposals that support the first three objectives.

Proposals relevant to the fourth objective are being sought jointly by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and EPA through a contemporaneous solicitation. Information about the joint solicitation can be obtained from either NSF (pfirth@nsf.gov; voice 703/306-1480) or EPA (202/260-7474).

The 1990 Pollution Prevention Act declares pollution prevention to be national policy and states that “* * * pollution should be prevented or reduced at the source whenever feasible.” Pollution prevention is now considered EPA’s preferred choice for environmental protection, and the Agency is seeking to integrate prevention as an ethic throughout all of its activities. Pollution prevention includes equipment or technology modifications, process or procedure modifications, reformulation or redesign of products, substitution of raw materials, and improvements in industrial housekeeping, operational maintenance, employee training, or inventory control.

On July 22, 1994, EPA Administrator Browner announced the new environmental policy Common Sense Initiative (CSI), which is designed to shift environmental protection from the current “pollutant-by-pollutant, end-of-pipe, command-and-control” approach to an “industry-by-industry, multi-media, prevention-oriented” approach. Six pilot industries were identified for CSI: auto manufacturing, computers and electronics, iron and steel, metal finishing and plating, petroleum refining, and printing. Proposals with relevance to these industries will receive priority consideration.

Program Scope

This EPA grant solicitation is intended to finance prevention-related projects supporting policy analysis (frameworks), institution building (innovation capacity), and domestic and international diffusion. Descriptions of the program areas that are addressed in this solicitation are provided below.

Policy framework topics of interest include: (1) Strengthening incentives for the development and use of innovative

prevention technologies; and (2) identifying and reducing barriers to innovation. Aspects to be addressed include regulations and implementation mechanisms (e.g., permitting and compliance policies and programs). This program area encompasses all environmental media (water, air, etc.) and emphasizes pilot projects not analytical studies. Policy framework proposals often address issues that have a broader focus than pollution prevention alone. Such proposals are welcomed so long as they are also applicable to pollution prevention technologies or issues.

Policy framework projects focus on environmental regulatory programs in the broadest sense, from regulation through compliance and enforcement. Projects selected in this areas will address regulatory programs in order to:

- Identify and enhance incentives for the development and use of prevention technologies;
- Minimize barriers to the development and use of such technologies; and
- Incorporate provisions into new and existing regulations and programs that maximize flexibility and widen the range of technologies accepted for use.

Special attention will be given to the use of market-based instruments for creating flexibility and incentives to innovate.

Innovation capacity proposals should be focused on how to assist, or catalyze, prevention technology development and commercialization efforts.

Examples of possible work in these areas are programs or projects to:

- Establish programs to standardize testing protocols and verify the cost and performance of innovative prevention technologies;
- Provide pollution prevention technology testing centers;
- Catalyze the efforts of many organizations to promote innovation by convening partnerships;
- Develop and communicate timely information about high priority prevention technology gaps; and
- Work jointly with organizations in the public and private sectors to identify and address non-regulatory sources of market inefficiency and failure in the environmental technology sector.

Proposals on diffusion of information should focus on new and improved means of fostering information networks, technical assistance, and outreach activities. Both domestic and international applications are encouraged. For example, there is a need to enhance the capacity of existing or newly created public and private sector diffusion activities to serve the

potential users of pollution prevention technologies both domestically and abroad. Proposals may include activities relating to market demand, availability, cost, performance, opportunities for business development, and regulatory requirements.

General Selection Criteria

The objective of this solicitation is to harness the capability of the nonprofit sector to help address the goals of the ETI. EPA will not accept proposals that are not directly related to one of the previously mentioned areas of ETI focus. Moreover, proposals must address barriers to the development and use of innovative pollution prevention approaches to be eligible unless they are addressing policy framework issues that will also benefit pollution prevention approaches as well as their target.

Each proposal will only be evaluated against one strategy objective based on the information provided above. Proposals with relevance to industries highlighted by the Common Sense Initiative and the Design for Environment Program will receive priority consideration. Special consideration will also be given to projects that support small businesses and/or small communities. This focus on a select few industries is intended to provide concentrated support for cleaner technology development and commercialization and sustainable economic growth and increased competitiveness.

Many barriers to development and application of pollution prevention exist because of the lack of flexibility in the policy infrastructure. Thus, proposals that seek to make the implementation of environmental policy a process that is more friendly to technology innovation will also receive additional attention. This is the one area in which projects may go beyond the pollution prevention domain.

The most significant problems and creative solutions most likely will be identified by nonprofit organizations and industrial investigators, working together on challenges posed by real problems. Projects must show appropriateness to current national concerns for pollution reduction or prevention; vague arguments that the proposed project may eventually be of value are not compelling.

This initiative particularly seeks innovative and high risk/high payoff ideas. It does not invite studies of “the problem” but rather specific approaches to possible solutions. Since the preparation of competitive proposals is very time consuming, it is also well to

present the following examples of what this initiative is not:

- Not basic research;
- Not technology development for pollution prevention, remediation, or control;
- Not diffusion of pollution control technology; and
- Not activities addressing processes to remove pollutants from waste streams or remediate waste problems.

Specific Selection Criteria

Proposals will be evaluated against the following factors:

- Does the project reduce uncertainty, improve flexibility, speed timing, enhance cost-effectiveness, address liability constraints, and/or diminish restraints on technology innovation?
- Is there broad applicability of the project's expected results (i.e., across levels of government, different states, or environmental media)? Is the problem clearly defined?
- Does the project complement current environmental legislative initiatives or significantly strengthen the Nation's ability to meet existing statutory or regulatory goals?
- Will the project produce measurable, visible results in an expeditious time-frame? Action projects will be emphasized over studies. Do project participants have the authority to implement programmatic changes?
- Does the project support multi-organizational partnerships across the public and private sectors? Will the project include leveraging funds among the partnering organizations? Applicant's proposals will be given more consideration to the extent that matching funds or in-kind services from participating partners are included.
- Does the proposal address global, transboundary, or other international environmental issues directly affecting the United States or lower the cost of innovative technologies for use in the United States?

In addition, the following considerations relate to particular subtopics:

- Policy framework proposals will be reviewed with respect to their capability to advance the goals and activities of ETI; breadth of applicability of the expected results; and potential to reduce barriers and create incentives; and projected probability of success.
- Proposals embracing the theme of innovation capacity should specifically be designed to be self-sustaining after ETI funds are expended.
- Domestic diffusion proposals must be customer-based, and should emphasize pollution prevention technology approaches. Special

consideration will be given to projects that support small businesses and/or small communities.

- International diffusion proposals should address global or international environmental issues that directly affect the United States. Proposals should also result in improving U.S. competitiveness and trade objectives in the international arena.

The Application

Application forms and instructions are available in the EPA Research Grants Application Kit. Interested investigators should review the materials in this kit before preparing an application for assistance. The kits can be obtained at the following address: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Research and Development, Office of Exploratory Research (8703), 401 M Street, SW., Washington DC 20460.

Each application for assistance must consist of Application for Federal Assistance Forms (Standard Forms (SF): 424 and 424A), separate sheets that provide the budget breakdowns for each year of the project, the resumes of the principal investigator and co-workers, the abstract of the proposed project, and a project narrative. All certifications must be signed and included with the application.

The closing date for application submission has been extended to COB on Tuesday May 16, 1995. COB is 5 pm EDT in Washington, D.C.

To be considered, the original and eight copies of the fully developed research grant application, prepared in accordance with the instructions in the Application for Federal Assistance Forms, must be received by the EPA Office of Exploratory Research no later than the above closing date. Informal, incomplete, or unsigned proposals will not be considered. Completed applications should be sent via regular or express mail to: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Research and Development, Office of Exploratory Research (8703), 401 M Street, SW., Washington DC 20460.

Applications sent via express mail should have the following telephone number listed on the express mail label: (202) 260-7445.

Special Instructions

The following special instructions apply to all applicants responding to this request for application.

- Applications must unbound and clipped or stapled. The SF-424 must be the first page of the application. Budget information should immediately follow the SF-424. All certification forms

should be placed at the end of the application.

- Applicants must be identified by printing "ETI95" in block 10 of the SF-424. This will facilitate proper assignment and review of the application.

- A one-page abstract must be included with the application.

- The "project narrative" section of the application must not exceed 25, consecutively numbered, 8 x 11 inch pages of standard type (i.e., 12 point), including tables, graphs, and figures. For purposes of this limitation, the "project narrative" section of the application consists of the following five items:

1. Description of Project
2. Objectives
3. Results or Benefits Expected
4. Approach
5. General Project Information

Any attachments, appendices, and other references for the narrative section may be included but must remain within the 25-page limitation. Appendices will not be considered an integral part of the application.

Items not included under the 25-page limitation are the SF-424 and other forms, budgets, resumes, and the abstract. Resumes must not exceed two consecutively-numbered pages for each investigator and should focus on education, positions held, and most recent or related publications.

Applications not meeting these requirements will be returned to the applicant without review.

Guidelines and Limitations

All recipients are required to provide a minimum of 1% of the total project cost, which may not be taken from Federal sources. All partnerships are encouraged. Primary partners are defined as contract awardees and secondary partners are those partners who do not receive grant funding directly from EPA. Subcontracts from primary partners to secondary partners for research to be conducted under this grant should not exceed 40% of the total direct cost of the grant for each year in which the subcontract is awarded.

Except for federal agencies and employees work may primary partners may subcontract work to any for-profit or not-for-profit organizations.

Eligibility

Not-for-profit institutions located within the U.S., including public and private colleges and universities, are eligible under all existing authorizations. Federal agencies and federal employees, as well as state and

local governments are not eligible to submit proposals to this program. Potential applicants who are uncertain of their eligibility should contact EPA's Grants Operations Branch at (202) 260-9266.

Proprietary Information

By submitting an application in response to this solicitation, the applicant grants EPA permission to share the application with technical reviewers both within and outside of the Agency. Applications containing proprietary or other types of confidential information will be immediately returned to the applicant without review.

Funding Mechanisms

The funding mechanism for all awards issued under this solicitation will consist of a grant agreement between EPA and the recipient. In accordance with Pub. L. 95-225, a grant is used to accomplish a public purpose of support or stimulation authorized by Federal statute rather than acquisition for the direct benefit of the Agency.

Minority Institution Assistance

Pre-application assistance is available upon request for potential investigators representing institutions identified by the Secretary, Department of Education, as Historically Black Colleges or Universities (HBCUs), Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACUs), or Native American or Tribal Colleges. For further information on minority assistance, contact Charles Mitchell by telephone at (202) 260-7448, by faxing a written request to (202) 260-0211, or by mailing it to the address for EPA's Office of Exploratory Research shown below.

Contacts

Additional general and technical information on this solicitation and the grants program may be obtained by contacting: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Exploratory Research (8703), 401 M Street SW., Washington DC 20460. Phone: (202) 260-7474/Fax: (202) 260-0211.

Information about the technical content of the solicitation may be obtained by contacting: Kenneth Jewett, Office of Policy, Planning and Evaluation, Phone: (202) 260-4211/Fax: (202) 260-2685.

General information on the ETI may be obtained from the ETI information line: (202) 260-2686.

Dated: April 27, 1994.

Thomas E. Kelly,

Acting Assistant Administrator for Policy, Planning and Evaluation.

[FR Doc. 95-10881 Filed 5-2-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

[OPP-00408; FRL-4952-9]

Metabolism Testing Guideline; Notice of Workshop

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of workshop.

SUMMARY: There will be a 1-day workshop sponsored by the EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs, to discuss the revision of the Metabolism Testing Guideline.

DATES: The workshop will be held on Wednesday, May 24, 1995, from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Written comments must be submitted by May 17, 1995.

ADDRESSES: The workshop will be held at: Crystal Gateway Marriott, 1700 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA. Interested persons are invited to submit written comments in triplicate to: By mail: Public Response and Program Resources Branch, Field Operations Division (7506C), Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. In person, bring comments to: Rm. 1132, Crystal Mall #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA.

Comments and data may also be submitted electronically by sending electronic mail (e-mail) to: opp-docket@epamail.epa.gov. Electronic comments must be submitted as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Comments and data will also be accepted on disks in WordPerfect in 5.1 file format or ASCII file format. All comments and data in electronic form must be identified by the docket number "OPP-00408." No Confidential Business Information (CBI) should be submitted through e-mail. Electronic comments on this document may be filed online at many Federal Depository Libraries. Additional information on electronic submissions can be found under the SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION unit of this document.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: By mail: Yiannakis M. Ioannou (7509C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. Office location and telephone number: Rm. 820D, CM #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA, (703) 305-7894. Copies of documents may be

obtained by contacting: By mail: Public Docket and Freedom of Information Section, Field Operations Division (7506C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. Office location and telephone number: Rm. 1128 Bay, CM #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA, (703) 305-5805 or 5454.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Pesticide Assessment Guidelines Subdivision F, describe protocols for performing toxicology and related tests to support registration of pesticides under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA). Some of the tests are also used in tolerance reviews under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA). Subdivision F was proposed for public comment in 1978 and published in October 1982. At that time, the Agency published the criteria for performing a general metabolism study on a pesticide and reserved a line item, Section 85-1, for a guideline on General Metabolism Studies of Pesticides. The Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) also specifies that General Metabolism studies can be required under the TSCA section 4 test rule.

The proposed revisions are the result of efforts by Agency scientists to improve the existing guideline to reflect current state-of-the-art regarding metabolism of pesticides and other toxic compounds. In addition, a need for revision was indicated by the results of the Pesticide Reregistration Rejection Rate Analysis as well as by comments received in response to the notice published in the **Federal Register** of September 19, 1990 (55 FR 38578).

The agenda for the meeting and a draft of the proposed Metabolism Guideline revisions will be available from the public docket within a week or two prior to the meeting.

Any member of the public wishing to submit written comments should contact the OPP docket staff at the address or the phone number given above. Interested persons are permitted to file written statements before the meeting. To the extent that time permits and upon advance notice, interested persons may be permitted to present oral statements at the meeting. There is no limit on written comments for consideration by the Panel, but oral statements before the Panel are limited to approximately 5 minutes. Since oral statements will be permitted only as time permits, the Agency urges the public to submit written comments in lieu of oral presentations. Persons wishing to make oral and/or written